Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: TRADE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY, JANUARY 25

REFS: (A) PARIS 1542, (B) PARIS 2138

1. WE RECEIVED DOCUMENT TC/WP(78)2, ENTITLED "PANORAMA OF THE SITUATION AND RECENT EVOLUTION IN THE FIELD OF TRADE POLICIES," JANUARY 23, INCLUDING ANNEXES I AND II AND THE APPENDIX ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. THIS DOCUMENTATION IS UNCLASSIFIED

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TOO EXTENSIVE FOR A THOROUGH ANALYSIS IN ADVANCE OF WORKING PARTY MEETING. HENCE, US REP SHOULD EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR WORK OF SECRETARIAT, AND INDICATE OUR INTENTION TO COMMENT IN DETAIL AT UPCOMING TRADE COMMITTEE MEETING.

2. ON PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION, FORMAT USED BY SECRETARIAT SEEMS USEFUL. HOWEVER, REP SHOULD TAKE AN OPPORTUNITY TO

POINT OUT ERRORS REGARDING US TRADE MEASURES, AS FOLLOWS:

A. ENTRY FOR OCTOBER, 1977 UNDER IRON AND STEEL SHOULD READ "PROVISIONAL ANTI-DUMPING DUTY CARBON STEEL PLATE FROM JAPAN." THE DOCUMENT OMITS THE WORD PLATE.

B. THE ENTRY FOR 76/77 UNDER ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC MACH-

INERY AND APPARATUS IS ERRONEOUS. WE HAVE NOT HAD VERS OR OTHER RESTRAINTS ON TV RECEIVERS WITH SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN.

C. MEAT: THE AGRICULTURE ADDENDUM LISTS 1974 AD VALOREM EQUIVALENTS (AVE) FOR BEEF AND VEAL PRODUCTS. CURRENTLY, THE SPECIFIC RATE IS 3 CENTS/POUND, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 5.9 PERCENT AVE FOR ALL CATEGORIES. IN ADDITION, LIST OF COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE HAVE VERS FOR 1977 IS MUCH LONGER THAN THE ONE CONTAINED IN THE REPORT. TEN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ARE OMITTED. FYI--CANADA MAY OBJECT TO THE TERMINOLOGY AS IT APPLIES TO THEM, PREFERRING TO SPEAK OF A TWO-WAY TRADE AGREEMENT. END FYI.

D. SUGAR: THE TABLE LISTS OUR RAW SUGAR DUTY AS 41.34 DOLLARS PER (METRIC) TON, OR 1.875 CENTS PER POUND. THE CURRENT DUTY IS 2.8125 CENTS PER POUND, WITH A FEE OF 2.7 CENTS PER POUND. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE RECENT DUTY UNCLASSIFIED

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INCREASE AND APPLICATION OF THE FEE ARE INTENDED TO BE TEMPORARY MEASURES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT (ISA) IS EFFECTIVE IN MEETING ITS MINIMUM PRICE OBJECTIVE.

3. WE AGREE WITH POSITION TAKEN, REF B, THAT WE SHOULD SUGGEST THE SECRETARIAT INCLUDE INTERNAL MEASURES WITH SIGNIFICANT TRADE IMPACT IN CONTINUING THIS STUDY. VANCE

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